



Department of Medical Assistance Services
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300
Richmond, Virginia 23219

www.dmas.virginia.gov

MEDICAID MEMO

TO: All Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), Physicians, Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Clinical Psychologists, Mental Health/Mental Retardation Agencies, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialists, Nurse Practitioners, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, and Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners

FROM: Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

MEMO: Special

DATE: 5/23/2008

SUBJECT: Medicaid Coverage of Substance Abuse Services Screening Codes

The purpose of this Memorandum is to alert affected providers to two new screening codes currently available for use by providers. The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) has authorized reimbursement for two new substance abuse screening codes for both Fee-for-Service and Managed Care Medicaid clients, including MEDALLION and FAMIS Plus enrollees. The Common Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes are 99408 and 99409. These new codes reimburse providers for structured screening for substance abuse and brief interventions using the Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST) or the Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT). No prior authorization is required.

Physicians, Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Nurse Practitioners, Licensed Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialists, Licensed Clinical Psychologists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Substance Abuse Practitioners, Clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and Rural Health Clinics may bill for these codes with dates of service on or after March 1, 2008.

The fee schedule for Fee-for-Service clients is below. Please note that the fee schedule is updated annually in July. For questions regarding this Memorandum, please refer to the DMAS HELPLINE numbers below.

Code	Description	Fee Schedule
CPT 99408	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention services; 15 to 30 minutes, over 21 years of age	\$20.64

Code	Description	Fee Schedule
CPT 99408	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention services; 15 to 30 minutes, under 21 years of age	\$27.04
CPT 99409	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention services; greater than 30 minutes, over 21 years of age	\$40.56
CPT 99409	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention services; greater than 30 minutes, under 21 years of age	\$53.13

ELIGIBILITY AND CLAIMS STATUS INFORMATION

DMAS offers a web-based Internet option (ARS) to access information regarding Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility, claims status, check status, service limits, prior authorization, and pharmacy prescriber identification. The website address to use to enroll for access to this system is <http://virginia.fhsc.com>. The MediCall voice response system will provide the same information and can be accessed by calling 1-800-884-9730 or 1-800-772-9996. Both options are available at no cost to the provider.

“HELPLINE”

The “HELPLINE” is available to answer questions Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on state holidays. The “HELPLINE” numbers are:

1-804-786-6273	Richmond area and out-of-state long distance
1-800-552-8627	All other areas (in-state, toll-free long distance)

Please remember that the “HELPLINE” is for provider use only. Please have your Medicaid Provider Identification Number available when you call.

COPIES OF MANUALS

DMAS publishes electronic and printable copies of its Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda on the DMAS website at www.dmas.virginia.gov. Refer to the “DMAS Content Menu” column on the left-hand side of the DMAS web page for the “Provider Services” link, which takes you to the “Manuals, Memos and Communications” link. This link opens up a page that contains all of the various communications to providers, including Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda. The Internet is the most efficient means to receive and review current provider information. If you do not have access to the Internet or would like a paper copy of a manual, you can order it by contacting Commonwealth-Martin at 1-804-780-0076. A fee will be charged for the printing and mailing of the manuals and manual updates that are requested.

PROVIDER E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

DMAS is pleased to inform providers about the creation of a new Provider E-Newsletter. The intent of this electronic newsletter is to inform, communicate, and share important program information with providers. Covered topics will include changes in claims processing, common problems with billing, new programs or changes in existing programs, and other information that may directly affect providers. If you would like to receive the electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.dmas.virginia.gov/pr-enewsletter.asp.

Please note that the Provider E-Newsletter is not intended to take the place of Medicaid Memos, Medicaid Provider Manuals, or any other official correspondence from DMAS.